

1. Ministry of Health
2. Almora

1/5 JANES
C.R. 43

AL S A G E R U R B A N D I S T R I C T C O U N C I L

R E P O R T

Cher

ON THE

HEALTH AND SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE

DISTRICT

FOR THE

YEAR ENDED 31st. DECEMBER, 1957.



R
C.R.



MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

L. RICH, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.O.G., D.RH

SURVEYOR AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

S. HAIGH, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

To the Chairman and Members of the Alsager Urban District Council,
Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the Urban District for the year 1957.

There was an increase in the estimated population of 390. The number of births also rose considerably.

Once again it is satisfactory to report no death of any mother in childbirth, and this reflects great credit on all concerned both in the hospital and in the domiciliary midwifery service.

The year under review was marked by an epidemic of Measles. Unfortunately we are unable to control the spread of this disease but due to the improved methods of treatment and its availability to all, the seriousness of the disease and its complications have been much reduced.

It is unsatisfactory to note that 25 cases of Whooping Cough were notified. It is possible to control this disease by immunisation, and parents should realise that they have a serious responsibility in making available to their children all the prophylactic immunisations now offered at clinics and by the family doctors, free of charge and at very little inconvenience.

The work at the Welfare and School Clinics continues to increase owing to the development of the Mothers Clinic and allied health education programmes. It is urgently necessary to provide more adequate accommodation and the first steps in this direction have been taken by the application from the Divisional Health Committee to the County Council for the provision of a new clinic.

The care of old people in their own homes took a considerable step forward by the provision by the Council in conjunction with the W.V.S. of accommodation in a properly converted house. This project one of the first in the County will depend for its success on the proper co-ordination between the Council and the Voluntary Service, and from the results so far achieved there is no doubt that this admirable scheme could form a sample for other Authorities to copy.

Throughout the County in recent years there have developed schemes for the provision by voluntary organisations with Council support, of hot meals in the homes of old people who through incapacity cannot do this for themselves. It may well be that in Alsager such a need exists and the matter certainly ought to be explored.

Once again I wish to thank your Clerk, Mr. R. Heap for the assistance he has given at all times and your Public Health Inspector Mr. S. Haigh for the help he has given me in enabling me to carry out my duties, and for his assistance in the compilation of this report.

I beg to remain,

Your obedient Servant,

L. RICH.

Medical Officer of Health

The figures in brackets throughout this report are for 1956.



STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Extracts from Vital Statistics

Estimated population 6600 (6210)

Births

		Total	Male	Female
Live Births	{ Legitimate	123 (87)	62 (47)	61 (40)
	{ Illegitimate	1 (5)	1 (2)	- (3)
Still Births	{ Legitimate	2 (3)	2 (2)	- (1)
	{ Illegitimate	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)

Live birth rate per 1,000 estimated average population mid. 1957 16.7 (13.4)

Live birth rate for England & Wales per 1,000 of the population 16.1 (15.7)

Still birth rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births 15.8 (31.5)

Still birth rate for England & Wales per 1,000 total (live & still) births 22.4 (23)

Still birth rate per 1,000 total population .3 (.48)

Still birth rate for England & Wales per 1,000 total population .36 (.37)

Infantile Mortality

The total number of deaths is shown as follows:-

	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	4 (-)	2 (-)	2 (-)
Illegitimate	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)

Infantile mortality rate per 1,000 live births 32.2 (0)

Infantile mortality rate for England & Wales 23 (23.8)

Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births 32.5 (0)

Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births 0 (0)

Deaths

	Total	Male	Female
Deaths, all ages	62 (53)	34 (29)	28 (24)

Death rate per 1,000 estimated average population 11.8 (9.9)

Death rate for England & Wales per 1,000 of the population 11.5 (11.7)

The following table shows the deaths from all causes within the district during the past year:-

Cause			Total	Male	Female
Tuberculosis, respiratory	•••	•••	•••	2	2
Tuberculosis, other	•••	•••	•••	-	-
Syphilitic disease	•••	•••	•••	-	-
Diphtheria	•••	•••	•••	-	-
Whooping Cough	•••	•••	•••	-	-
Meningococcal infections	•••	•••	•••	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	•••	•••	•••	-	-
Measles	•••	•••	•••	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	•••	•••	•••	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	•••	•••	•••	2	2
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	•••	•••	•••	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, breast	•••	•••	•••	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	•••	•••	•••	-	-
Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	•••	•••	•••	5	4
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	•••	•••	•••	-	-
Diabetes	•••	•••	•••	-	-
Vascular Lesions of nervous system	•••	•••	•••	11	4
Coronary disease, angina	•••	•••	•••	13	9
Hypertension with heart disease	•••	•••	•••	2	1
Other heart disease	•••	•••	•••	7	1
Other circulatory diseases	•••	•••	•••	5	2
Influenza	•••	•••	•••	-	-
Pneumonia	•••	•••	•••	1	1
Bronchitis	•••	•••	•••	2	2
Other diseases of respiratory system	•••	•••	•••	-	-
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	•••	•••	•••	-	-
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	•••	•••	•••	-	-
Nephritis and nephrosis	•••	•••	•••	1	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	•••	•••	•••	-	-
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	•••	•••	•••	-	-
Congenital malformations	•••	•••	•••	2	1
Other defined and ill defined diseases	•••	•••	•••	5	4
Motor vehicle accidents	•••	•••	•••	-	-
All other accidents	•••	•••	•••	1	1
Suicide	•••	•••	•••	1	1
Homicide and operations of war	•••	•••	•••	-	-
			Total	62	34
					28

Deaths from Puerperal and Maternal causes:-

No. of Deaths

Puerperal Sepsis	0	(0)
Other Maternal causes	0	(0)

Maternal Mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births 0 (0)

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICE

FOR THE AREA

Care of Mothers and Young Children

Health Visitor in Charge - Miss E.G. Smith, 15, Centre Court,
Alsager, Tel. Alsager 628

As can be seen from the figures a very considerable amount of work is done both at the clinic premises of Centre Court and in hired accommodation at St. Mary's School. As pointed out in the introduction it is more than every necessary to have proper accommodation.

Good progress was made in the work being done by the Mothers clinic which has now been re-named 'Preparation Classes'. As pointed out in the report last year a comprehensive programme of Health Education is given to the pregnant mother and a system of exercises all designed to enable her to successfully complete her labour and put her in the best position to rear her new born child.

The table below will give some indication of the numbers attending at the Clinic.

Statistics

	New Cases			Total Attendances			No. of Clinics held	Cases seen by Dr.	Average per clinic seen by Dr.
	0-1	1-2	2-5	0-1	1-2	2-5			
Infant Welfare Clinic	99 (86)	- (-)	- (-)	885 (796)	196 (189)	141 (149)	24 (25)	217 (281)	9 (11.2)

Special Clinics for under 5

	New Cases		Total Attendances		No. of Clinics held	Average per clinic
	0-1	1-2	0-1	1-2		
Ophthalmic Clinic	5 (4)		14 (17)		16 (14)	.8 (1.2)
E.N.T. Clinic	6 (7)		6 (7)		9 (10)	.6 (.7)

Special Clinics for School Children

	New Cases		Total Attendances		No. of Clinics held	Average per clinic
	0-1	1-2	0-1	1-2		
Ophthalmic Clinic	43		159		18	8.8
E.N.T. Clinic	38		48		8	6

Preparation Class

	New Cases		Total Attendances		No. of Clinics held	Average per clinic
	0-1	1-2	0-1	1-2		
Preparation Class	16		110		24	4.5

A faint, grayscale background image of a classical building, possibly a temple or a large library, featuring multiple columns and a prominent pediment at the top. The building is centered and serves as a subtle backdrop for the text.

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2016 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b28801635>

Welfare Foods

The sale and distribution of Welfare Foods is done wholly by voluntary workers at the Welfare Centre, and by the W.V.S. in Lawton Road.

Great credit is due to all these good ladies who give so unstintingly of their time and labour.

Throughout the year no complaints were received and all demands were met.

Welfare Foods Sold - 1957

Distribution Centre	Nat. Dried Milk		A & D Tablets	Cod Liver Oil	Orange Juice
	Full Cream	Half Cream			
Welfare Centre	378 (334)	- (-)	- (-)	169 (154)	985 (670)
Lawton Rd. (W.V.S.)	1208 (1410)	16 (1)	355 (280)	493 (538)	4169 (3545)

Midwifery.

It is satisfactory to note this year that the number of babies born at home has increased more than the number born in hospital.

It is my considered opinion that provided the home conditions are satisfactory and that the mother is medically sound then the best place for the birth to occur is in the home.

Births 1957

Hospital		Home		Private N. Home	
Live	Still	Live	Still	Live	Still
80 (71)	- (3)	42 (22)	2 (-)	- (-)	- (-)

Home Nursing

The District Nurse for Alsager is - Mrs. E. Weatherall,
27, Cresswellshawe Road,
Alsager. Tel. Alsager 67.

The Home Nurse works under the direction of the family doctor and looks after patients in their own homes. Because of this many cases who otherwise would have to be admitted to hospital are dealt with at home. This work helps considerably in reducing the strain on the hospitals. Once again it is with pleasure that I have to report that no single complaint was received during the year.

Vaccination and Immunisation

The year was marked by further development in the campaign against Poliomyelitis. The progress was not quite as expected due to the inadequacy of supplies.

Statistics

Diphtheria Immunisation

Pre-school children	10	(10)
School children	2	(25)
	12	(35)

Reinforcing Injections

72 (29)

Whooping Cough Immunisation

Pre-school children	.2	(-)
School children	1	(20)
	<u>3</u>	<u>(20)</u>

Combined Immunisation (Diphtheria and Whooping Cough)

Pre-school children	77	{ 79}
School children	<u> </u>	<u>{ 17}</u>
	<u>77</u>	<u>(96)</u>

Primary Vaccination

Pre-school children	71	(35)
School children	14	{ 5}
Adults	7	{ 4}
	<u>92</u>	<u>(44)</u>

Re-Vaccination

Pre-school children	1	(3)
School children	3	{ 2}
Adults	17	{ 7}
	<u>21</u>	<u>(12)</u>

Ambulance and Sitting Case Car Transport

A new Bedford Ambulance has replaced the old Austin which had been in service since 1949.

The Alsager Ambulance is ably managed on behalf of the Divisional Health Committee by the Council's Staff, and close cooperation is maintained between the various neighbouring stations. Much of the second line maintenance and repair is done in the Congleton Station, where a full time Driver/Mechanic is employed.

As can be seen from the figures below the ambulance is very busily engaged and a satisfactory service is being maintained.

Ambulance Figures - 1957

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Mileages	1889 (1819)	1683 (1355)	1669 (1709)	1976 (1884)	1892 (1847)	1937 (1738)	1795 (1624)	1568 (2111)	1679 (1769)	1705 (1644)	1792 (1846)	1701 (1739)
Journeys	70 (58)	64 (52)	64 (63)	79 (73)	70 (63)	74 (61)	61 (57)	60 (72)	65 (59)	65 (53)	68 (66)	72 (61)
Patients	280 (260)	177 (260)	190 (219)	204 (265)	258 (341)	222 (308)	339 (249)	184 (317)	237 (302)	228 (307)	212 (316)	263 (222)

Domestic Help Service

Statistics relating to the Home Help Service provided during 1957 are as follows:-

Home Helps employed during 1957

Full time	-	(-)
Temporary	10	(12)
Casual	5	(4)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	15	(16)
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Home Helps employed at 31st. December, 1957

Full time	-	(-)
Temporary	6	{ 8 }
Casual	1	{ 1 }
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	7	(9)
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Applications received during 1957

Confinement	1	(-)
Sickness	4	{ 8 }
Tuberculosis	-	{ - }
Aged and Infirm	4	(9)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	9	(17)
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Cases attended during 1957

Confinement	-	(-)
Sickness	7	{ 7 }
Tuberculosis	-	{ - }
Aged and Infirm	10	(13)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	17	(20)
	<hr/>	<hr/>

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER
INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during
the year 1957

Disease	Age Distribution										Total Cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
	Under 1	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-15	20-35	45-65	& over			
Dysentery	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Measles	7	15	21	22	28	116	5	1	1	-	216	-	-
Pneumonia	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	4	1
Whooping- Cough	4	1	2	2	2	12	-	2	-	-	25	-	-

Tuberculosis

For comparative purposes I have recorded the notifications of Tuberculosis during 1957 in conjunction with the notifications of this disease received each year since 1948.

Notifications - 1948 to 1957

	1948 P	1949 NP	1950 P	1951 NP	1952 P	1953 NP	1954 P	1955 NP	1956 P	1957 NP
MALE										
Up to 1 year										
1 - 5							1			
5 - 15										
15 - 25							1			
25 - 35	1	1	1			2				
35 - 45							1	1	2	
45 - 55							1			
55 - 65										1
65 and over						2				
Total	4	1	4	- 2	1	1	- 5	5	2	- 2
FEMALE										
Up to 1 year										
1 - 5										
5 - 15							3			
15 - 25			1			1				
25 - 35	2	1	1					1		
35 - 45	1	1			1					
45 - 55										
55 - 65										
65 and over						1				
Total	4	1	4	- 2	1	1	- 5	5	2	- 2

Deaths - 1948 to 1957

	1948 P	1949 NP	1950 P	1951 NP	1952 P	1953 NP	1954 P	1955 NP	1956 P	1957 NP
MALE										
Up to 1 year										
1 - 5										
5 - 15										
15 - 25										
25 - 35										
35 - 45										
45 - 55										
55 - 65										
65 and over							1			
Total	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
FEMALE										
Up to 1 year										
1 - 5										
5 - 15										
15 - 25										
25 - 35										
35 - 45										
45 - 55										
55 - 65										
65 and over										
Total	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-

Cases on the Tuberculosis Register at 31st. December, 1957
were as follows:-

	Up to 1 yr.	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	65 & over	Total
Male Pulmonary	-	-	-	1	3	3	4	2	1	14
Female Pulmonary	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	3
Male Non-Pulm Pulmonary	-	-	3	1	-	-	1	-	1	6
Female Non- Pulmonary	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	3

The following sections of this report cover the work of the Public Health Inspector's Department, and have been compiled by Mr. S. Haigh, the Public Health Inspector and Surveyor.

Water Supply

Source

The water is drawn from three Boreholes situated at Audley Road.

Treatment

The water is filtered, softened and chlorinated at the source.

During the past year the works have been maintained to obtain a supply.

Quality

Analysis shows that the water is satisfactory for all domestic purposes.

Quantity

An investigation into the Council's application to sink a new borehole for a further supply of water took place on Thursday the 13th December, 1956 at the Council Offices. As a result of this enquiry, the Minister recommended that the Council consider joining the Mid and South East Cheshire Water Board.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

The Council own and maintain two sewage disposal works at Day Green and Longview.

The Day Green Works are old and are now overloaded and consideration has been given to the modernising and enlarging.

Certain re-arrangements of the sludge lagoons has been carried out and additional lagoons have been provided, and these are showing signs of an improvement but this can only be of a temporary nature.

The valves to the storm water tanks have been renewed and a pump has been provided to re-circulate the storm water.

The Longview Works have been cleaned and these works are in good condition, but show signs of overloading during storms. Additional sludge drying beds are required.

The sewerage from Close Lane area is discharged and treated at the works of the Royal Ordnance Factory who also maintain these works.

The general sewerage system of the district shows signs of overloading and surcharging of the sewer takes place during storm periods, with consequent discharge of dilute sewage at various places.

The sewerage system continues to expand in Talke Road and Pikemere Road area.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The Council maintain a regular collection of Refuse Collection and Disposal based on a Bonus system whereby the bins are emptied regularly over a period of approximately nine and a half working days.

The refuse is disposed of by tipping which is subject to certain amount of control.

HOUSING

Information for Housing is now provided on return Form p.13. (Hsg).

FOOD AND DRUGS

Regular visits were made to all food premises during the year. See Paragraph 4 Ministry of Health Circular 17/55.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

There are two slaughterhouses in the District. All meat slaughtered is inspected and the condition of slaughtering and the Slaughterhouses are supervised.

Carcasses, and Offals inspected and condemned in whole or in part.

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	202	-	3	740	262	-
Number inspected	202	-	3	740	262	-
<u>All diseases except</u> <u>Tuberculosis and</u> <u>Cysticerci</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	1	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	69	-	-	20	12	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	3.4	-	-	2.7	4.7	-
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	20	-	-	-	4	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	9.9	-	-	-	1.5	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned						
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration. Generalised and totally condemned	6	-	-	-	-	-

Summary of Visits

Made to Various Premises

Refuse Collection and Disposal	40
Sewerage and Drainage	60
Sewerage Works	20
Water Supply	60
Factories and Workshops	12
Caravans	-
Food and Drugs	10
Infectious Diseases	10
Public Houses	2
Nuisances	20
Rodent Control	25

RODENT CONTROL

No serious infestation exists in the district, complaints are dealt with as they are reported.

The necessary test and treatment of the Council's sewers have been carried out.

FACTORIES

Premises	No. on Register.	No. of Inspections	No. of Written Notices	No. of Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	8	8	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	-	-	-	-
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	6	6	-	-
TOTAL	14	14	-	-



✓

FACTORIES

	No. of Register	No. of Inspections	No. of Written Notices	No. of Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Section 1,2,3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	8	18	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	-	-	-	-
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	6	15	-	-
Total	14	33	-	-

